

## Conference Items

Item one appears on first page—the date of the Conference has been changed to August 29–September 3. That means that it will open Tuesday afternoon of August 29, and close on Sunday night, September 3. Commit this to memory.

The Sisters' program is published on another page. It is an excellent program and provides for a variety which promises to be both interesting and profitable. Papers are limited to ten minutes.

Do you remember your place on the program, or have you forgotten that a place has been assigned you by the committee? By way of refreshing your memory we reprint a few of the items on the program:

- Annual Sermon, J. M. Tombaugh.
- A Paper in Every Home, E. E. Haskins.
- The Church and the College, J. L. Gillin, R. R. Teeter, D. C. Moomaw, J. A. Miller.
- The Relation of the College and Missions, C. F. Yoder.
- The Great Commission, J. B. Wampler.
- The Gospel Sanctification, I. D. Bowman.
- Work for Idle Preachers, J. D. McFaden.
- The District Evangelist, L. W. Ditch.
- The Church for the Times, Z. T. Livengood.
- Educational Qualification of the Brethren Ministry, J. C. Mackey.
- The Preacher for the Times, L. S. Bauman.
- How to Hold a Pastorate, J. H. Knepper.
- Our Distinctive Plea, G. W. Rench.
- Protection from Unworthy Ministers, W. C. Perry, J. M. Bowman.
- Our Special Needs, W. H. Miller, A. J. Hixson.
- Sunday morning sermon, W. L. Spanogle.
- Sunday evening sermon, J. D. McFaden.

This is exclusive of the Sisters' and the Young People's programs. Begin the work of preparation *now*.

The executive committee desires that you come to the Conference with a *well-prepared paper*. There will be many opportunities in the general discussions for extemporaneous speeches if you are gifted in that way, but if your name appears on the program it is only reasonable to suppose that you intend to give the Conference the best you have to give, and that being so the church at large as well as those who attend the Conference should have the benefit of it.

Have you received all the blank credentials you need? If not, a postal card addressed to this office will bring you the required number. Elect your delegates at once. Do not wait, it is a matter of too much importance to delay.

Let every member of the church pray and work for the success of the coming Conference. We do not go there for mere pleasure, tho the place is a summer resort and a pleasure it will be to all who are so fortunate as to be able to attend the meeting, but we are not pleasure seekers. The joy and pleasure will come as natural results of having done our duty and met our responsibilities, but we go

to Winona to plan for large work for God, the church and for the world. Will you be there?

## To the Churches of Ohio

The Ohio State Mission Board of which the writer is a member, earnestly requests that all churches in the state take up monthly collections for the support of our home work. The Ashland city church has already taken up two collections, the one for June, amounting to \$3.50, the one for July, to \$6.66, making a total of \$10.16, or a little above one fourth the amount this church is expected to raise. Please brethren pastors, bring this matter before your churches and give the people an opportunity to help in this very important and urgent work. The Dayton Mission should have the hearty support of the state, and the church misses a great opportunity by withholding such support. Begin now. If you have \$20 dollars to raise it is much easier to raise a few dollars each month than it is to raise the whole amount at one time.

The secretary of the conference, Brother Miller, has mailed to all pastors in the state for free distribution, that part of the minutes of last conference which relates to the organization of our work in the state. Pastors will kindly see that one of these leaflets gets into every Brethren family in the state. The president of the Mission Board, Brother Kimmel, will also communicate with pastors and churches and help them to an easy way of raising funds for our mission work. There should be prompt action on the part of all the churches in the state. For further information address Rev. J. L. Kimmel, Buckeye City, Ohio.

## Who Will Be Next?

The EVANGELIST is mailed regularly each Wednesday evening at about 4 o'clock, that is it leaves the office at that time. On Monday morning, just four days after the paper was mailed Professor Miller received the following letter, dated Jones Mills, Pa., July 29:

Please send me three or four of the endowment pledges. I wish to fill one for six dollars per year, and I think there are a few others here that may do the same. Praying for the college work I remain your brother in Christ. MARCUS A. WITTER.

There are 1,000 persons in the brotherhood who can each take one of these endowment pledges, and do it with less personal sacrifice than is required for Brother Witter to carry his pledge. Why should they not do it? Let 250 others do as Brother Witter has done, and we will have an endowment for the college of \$25,000. But if Brother Witter succeeds in getting one more besides himself, as he likely will, then 250 persons doing the same would mean \$50,000 endowment for the college. Have you ever stopped to consider what that would mean to

the church? If you want to see the Brethren church make the most tremendous strides she has ever made in her history, if you want to see her become a great power for God and the world, if you want to see her do as much in the next five years as she has done in all the years since her reorganization, then let 250 others follow the example of Brother Witter, and your desires will be more than realized.

The outlook for the school is encouraging. Brother Miller informs us that thus far he knows of two persons from Nebraska and two from Iowa, who will be here at the opening of the fall term. How many will there be from Illinois, and how many from Indiana and Pennsylvania, and lastly how many from Ohio? If the near by states will show an equal interest the fall term will open with 100 students. Give the school an endowment and students, and the school will give the church and the world many times above what it has received. Try it and be convinced.

## An Optimist

The Rev. Mr. Shott of Plainfield, N. J., is president of the citizens' league of that place, the purpose of which is to reform the bad morals of the town. He evidently possesses the kind of courage which is not intimidated by impossible tasks, insuperable obstacles and invincible enemies. This courage is rendered all the more conspicuous by the fact that the citizens of the town are by no means unanimous in support of the pastor's efforts, many of them despairing of the reforms upon which Mr. Shott has set his heart. It has not availed that the reverend gentleman has been throwing some hot shot into the ranks of the faint hearted and half hearted. This element of the population, numerous as we all know in every community, and powerful to defeat every generous effort toward reform and betterment, appears to be impervious to the shot-ted guns either of persuasion or denunciation, and so it happens that the energy of the preacher is wasted before the enemy is reached. With a divided camp, how can he attack the solid intrenchments of wickedness? There is an astonishing amount of iniquity in towns which lie in the shadow of the great cities. They furnish temporary retreats and refuges for criminals and abominables of every class, who prey upon society where victims are numerous and the loot is large. To these vermin the breath of reform is like the blast of the pit. They hate righteousness with the intensity of a demon and it is their meat and drink to stir up the dregs of wickedness and open into every community which they invade, and if possible in every home, wide the door for the incoming of satan. It is against such a foe that the chivalric Mr. Shott hurls his knight-